

**City of Fairfield
Minutes
Regular Meeting of City Council
January 8, 2024**

Council-Manager Briefing

None.

Business Meeting Call to Order

Mayor Rhodus called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Dale Paullus led in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Councilmembers present included:

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tim Meyers	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Matt Davidson	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Gwen Brill	Councilmember, At-Large	Present	
Leslie Besl	Councilmember, 1st Ward	Present	
Dale Paullus	Councilmember, 2nd Ward	Present	
Debbie Pennington	Councilmember, 3rd Ward	Present	
Adam Kraft	Councilmember, 4th Ward	Present	
Mitch Rhodus	Mayor	Present	

Agenda Modifications

None.

Executive Session Requests

Councilmember Besl, seconded by Councilmember Kraft, moved for Executive Session to discuss the purchase of property, the sale of public property at competitive bidding and the employment, compensation, promotion, demotion or discipline of a public employee or official. Roll call vote. Motion carried 7-0.

Special Presentations

None.

Citizen Comments

None.

Council Reports

Public Hearing(s)

None.

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2023 were approved and written and submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Besl, seconded by Councilmember Pennington, moved to read all New Business by title only. Motion carried 7-0.

Community & Public Relations

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Tim Meyers

Simple Motion: Formal recognition and/or approval of Council Assignments and Council appointments dated January 1, 2024.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council recognize and approve the following Council appointments via simple motion of Council:

Vice Mayor - Gwen Brill
Community & Public Relations - Tim Meyers
Development Services - Matt Davidson
Parks, Recreation & Environment - Leslie Besl
Public Safety - Dale Paullus
Public Utilities - Debbie Pennington
Public Works - Adam Kraft
Finance & Budget - Gwen Brill

Board of Zoning Appeals - Dale Paullus
Community Improvement Corp - Gwen Brill & Matt Davidson
OKI - Dale Paullus
OKI Alternate - Mitch Rhodus
Design Review - Gwen Brill
Emergency Management Agency - Mitch Rhodus
Cultural Arts Advisory Commission - Leslie Besl
SELF Board - Adam Kraft
Butler County Health Council - Debbie Pennington
Rt 4 Improvement Committee - Tim Meyers
SIMPLE MOTION NO. 1-24. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Parks, Recreation and Environment

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Leslie Besl

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Besl presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leslie Besl, Councilmember, 1st Ward
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to dedicate an easement to Duke Energy for the Harbin Park Playground and Splash Pad Electric Relocation and declaring an emergency.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the City Manager to dedicate an easement to Duke Energy for the relocated electric (from overhead to underground) to a location not in conflict with the Harbin Playground and Splash Pad project.

ORDINANCE NO. 1-24. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leslie Besl, Councilmember, 1st Ward
SECONDER:	Debbie Pennington, Councilmember, 3rd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Public Works

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Adam Kraft

Resolution declaring necessity of repairing sidewalks (including aprons).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorizes and directs the preparation of a Resolution of Necessity for the sidewalk/driveway apron repairs.

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	FIRST READING Next: 1/22/2024 7:00 PM
----------------	---

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Kraft presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Dale Paullus, Councilmember, 2nd Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Ordinance to authorize the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with Butler County Transportation Improvement District for the Symmes Road Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Project.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council authorize the preparation of legislation, with rules suspension, authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Butler County Transportation Improvement District for the Symmes Road Railroad Crossing Elimination Project. It is further recommended that City Council authorize the funding as detailed in the financial impact section of this letter.

ORDINANCE NO. 2-24. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Finance & Budget

City Manager Scott Timmer - Report

Councilmember Gwen Brill

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Brill presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 166-23 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.”

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 3-24. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Motion to Suspend Second and Third Readings

Councilmember Brill presented the first reading of this ordinance.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Adam Kraft, Councilmember, 4th Ward
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 166-23 entitled “An Ordinance to make estimated appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, during a period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024.”

Recommendation:

It is recommended that City Council suspend the rules requiring a second and third reading of this Ordinance and adopt the appropriations listed above.

ORDINANCE NO. 4-24. APPROVED 7-0.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Gwen Brill, Councilmember, At-Large
SECONDER:	Tim Meyers, Councilmember, At-Large
AYES:	Meyers, Davidson, Brill, Besl, Paullus, Pennington, Kraft

Meeting Schedule

Clerk Wilson read the following meeting schedule:

- A. Monday, January 22 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- B. Monday, February 12 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- C. Monday, February 26 - Council-Manager Briefing, 6:00 PM; Regular Meeting 7:00 PM

Executive Session of Council (if needed)

Council recessed to Executive Session at 7:20 PM.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Mayor's Approval

Date Approved_____